

A RELATION of a late Barbarous Assault of the  
FRENCH upon the ENGLISH, near the  
Downs, March the 12th. 1688. Attested by Captain,  
Officers, and several of the Passengers.

**C**aptain Butcher, Commander of the good Ship, called the *Mary of Lyme* Regis, bound for *London*, sailed from the Port of *Lyme* the sixth of this Instant *March*, with divers sorts of Merchant-Goods; and the twelfth of this Instant, proceeding on her Intended Voyage, four Leagues off *Dungenness*, met with a French Man of Warre, who bore up to him, and coming near, the said Captain Butcher, not knowing of any War betwixt *England* and *France*, he thought it not fit to make Resistance, some Shot was fired from the French man and struck her, to the danger of some Passengers, though, as it pleased God, none was wounded; about Ten in the morning they commanded the said Captain Butcher's Boat on board, who was forced to submit, having not where-withall to withstand so great a force: so manning his Boat, and coming on board, they demanded the late King James's Passport; the Captain answered, *I have none, here are my Cockets from the Custom-house at Lyme, which I think is a sufficient Discharge for me*; and also said, *I hope there is no War betwixt the English and your King*; the Answer was, *You Dogs, you Rogues, I will go on board and see what you have*: And coming on board the said Captain Butcher's Ship, opened all the Letters, not only the Masters, but divers Letters of the Passengers, and barbarously used the Commander, a very worthy Gentleman, his Father having served his late Majesty King Charles the Second very faithfully in his Wars against the French; and this worthy Commander resolved now to engage in his best Capacity in and for his Countreys safety, which was his greatest concern in coming up to *London*; he was beaten and abused at a very severe rate; The Plunder of the Ship not satisfying their gorging appetite, they took from him all his Money, most part of the Goods worth carrying away, his Provisions; and so barbarous were these inhumane Papists, that they robbed the civil Passengers, and took all they could from them, running their Swords at their Breast, and threatening them with immediate Death. These things are ready to be attested, and more of their barbarous Proceedings with the Gentlemen-Passengers on board the said Ship, by the said Captain, and his Men and Passengers, the said Ship lying at Mr. Cotton's Wharf, near the Bridge in *Southwark*.

Mr. John Butcher, Captain.

Mr. John Stoakes,

Mr. John Wicker,

Mr. Henry Puss,

Mr. Summers,

Mr. Solomon Sweedland,

Mr. John Sprague,

Mr. Tho. Day,

Mr. Tho. Wilson.

} Passengers.

ADVERTISEMENT.

**T**Here is now Publish'd a second Edition of a Book, Entituled, The Bloody Affizes, being a Compleat History of the Life of George Lord Jefferies, from his Birth to this present time; wherein among other things is given a true Account of his unheard of Cruelties, throughout his whole Western Circuit: To which is added Major Holms's excellent Speech, with the Dying Speeches of many other eminent Protestants. This Book of my Lord Jefferies Life, together with the first and second Collections of the Dying Speeches already publisht, compleats the whole Western Transactions for the Year 85. All sold by John Duntoun at the Black Raven in the Poultry, over against the Compter.

L O N D O N, Printed, and sold by R. Janeway in Queens-Head-Alley in Pater-noster-Row, 1689.